

conditions to any one of the polynucleotides specified in (a)-(h).

2 The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide is operably linked to at least one expression control sequence.

3. A host cell transformed with the polynucleotide of claim 2.

4. The host cell of claim 3 wherein said cell is a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell.

5. A process for producing a protein encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 2 which process comprises (a) growing a culture of the host cell of claim 3 in a suitable culture medium; and (b) purifying the protein from the culture medium.

6. A protein produced according to the process of claim 5.

7. A protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (b) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 from amino acid 68 to amino acid 269;
- (c) the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BBP1-fl deposited under accession number ATCC 98617; and
- (d) fragments of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid 185 to amino acid 217 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

8. The protein of claim 7, wherein said protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

9. A fusion protein comprising a BBP1 linked to a heterologous protein or peptide sequence.

10. The fusion protein of claim 9 in the BBP1 has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

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11. An oligonucleotide which encodes an antisense sequence complementary to a portion of BBP1 sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 and which inhibits expression the BBP1 gene.

12. A method for determining a polynucleotide encoding a β -amyloid peptide-binding protein (BBP) in a sample comprising the steps of (a) hybridizing to a sample a probe specific for said polynucleotide under conditions effective for said probe to hybridize specifically to said polynucleotide; and (b) determining the hybridization of said probe to polynucleotides in the sample, wherein said probe comprises a nucleic acid sequence having a region of 20 or more base pairs at least 90% identical to the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

13. A method for determining a polynucleotide encoding a β -amyloid peptide-binding protein (BBP) in a sample comprising the steps of (a) hybridizing to a sample a probe specific for said polynucleotide under conditions effective for said probe to hybridize specifically to said polynucleotide; and (b) determining the hybridization of said probe to polynucleotides in the sample, wherein said probe comprises a nucleic acid sequence having a region of 20 or more base pairs at least 90% identical to the polynucleotide sequence of the cDNA insert of ATCC 98617 or ATCC 98399.

14. An antibody that binds specifically to a polypeptide comprising a region at least 90% identical in sequence to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

15. An antibody that binds specifically to a polypeptide comprising a region at least 90% identical in sequence to the amino acid sequence of the β -amyloid peptide binding protein encoded by the cDNA insert of ATCC 98617.

16. A method for detecting in a sample a polypeptide comprising a region at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, said method comprising (a) incubating with a sample a reagent that bind specifically to said polypeptide under conditions

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said test compound and a reagent comprising a polypeptide comprising a region at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 under conditions effective for specific binding of said reagent to said human β -amyloid peptide; (b) comparing the binding of said reagent to said peptide in the sample in the presence and absence of said test compound; and (c) relating the difference between the binding in step (b) to the test compound regulating the activity of the α β -amyloid peptide binding protein.

22. A method for identifying compounds which regulate the activity of a β -amyloid peptide binding protein comprising (a) incubating a sample comprising human β -amyloid peptide in a test medium containing said test compound and a reagent comprising a polypeptide comprising a region at least 90% identical to the amino acid sequence of the β -amyloid peptide binding protein encoded by the cDNA insert of ATCC 98617 under conditions effective for specific binding of said reagent to said human β -amyloid peptide; (b) comparing the binding of said reagent to said peptide in the sample in the presence and absence of said test compound; and (c) relating the difference between the binding in step (b) to the test compound regulating the activity of the α β -amyloid peptide binding protein.

23. A method for the treatment of a patient having need to inhibit β -amyloid peptide accumulation in the brain comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 7.

24. A transgenic or chimeric animal comprising the polynucleotide of claim 2.

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